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P. Wall  
11-22-02*

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61232

Toshiki USUI

Appln. No.: 09/686,959

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 5709

Examiner: Ly T. TRAN

Filed: October 12, 2000

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS, RECORDING METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith. The listed documents include:

U.S.P. No. 5,781,204;

E.P. No. 0 956 964;

J.P. No. 11-221932;

E.P. No. 0 788 882; and

E.P. No. 0 744 296.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/686,959

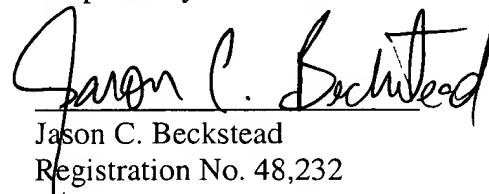
Attorney Docket No.: Q61232

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (European Search Report for EP 00 12 1389 dated July 1, 2002) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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